

Application No. 09/824493

REMARKS

First, Applicants wish to thank Examiner Jacobs for conducting the telephone interviews with Applicants' representatives on April 10, 2007 and April 11, 2007. During the telephone interview of April 11, 2007, an agreement was reached that the Examiner would reopen the prosecution of the present case on the merits so as to properly consider all of the declarations, as filed and of record, and as discussed during the telephone interview of April 10, 2007, and as further set forth below.

In the present Office Action, all the claims 1-41 of this application were rejected under 35 U.S.C. 103(a) on the basis of Rosner in view of Forth. However, as discussed during the telephone interview of April 10, 2007, the previously submitted supplemental declaration providing further evidence of the reduction to practice of the present invention prior to the November 28, 2000 filing date of the Forth reference, was not addressed by the present Office Action. It is respectfully submitted that the supplemental declaration, combined with the previously filed declaration, removes the Forth reference, and thus any rejections based wholly or in part on the Forth reference are overcome.

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Respectfully submitted,

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